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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A planar light source device includes a primary light source (1),
a light guide (3) which leads the light emitted from the primary light
5 source (1), and having a light incident face (31) to which the light emitted
from the primary light source (1) comes in, and a light emitting face from
which the led light goes out, a light deflection element (4) arranged
adjacent to the light emitting face (33) of the light guide (3), and a
polarization separation element (6) disposed on the side of a light outgoing
10 surface (42) of the light deflection element (4), and having a function of
transmitting one of polarization components of the incident light and
reflecting the other of the polarization components. The full width at half
maximum of the luminance distribution of the incident light upon the
polarization separation element (6) in an XY plane parallel to the travel
15 direction of the light in the light guide (3) is 25° or less. The reference
symbol 7 indicates a liquid crystal display element.